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EXTENDED TIME FOR GANGULY & SHAH

Both Ganguly and Shah already served close to six years in Cricket Association of Bengal and Gujarat Cricket Association as office-bearers when they were elected. Going by Lodha's rules, Ganguly's term in BCCI should have ended in July, 2020 and Shah's in Aug, 2020. They continued because the BCCI approached the SC seeking changes in constitution

ALL EYES ON CHANDRACHUD NOW

He was one of the three judges who removed BCCI office-bearers in Jan 2017

Can affect annual general meeting that usually takes place in September

BCCI waiting anxiously for SC to fix date for next hearing

9 YEARS

MAXIMUM CUMULATIVE TERM

A BCCI office-bearer can hold office up to 9 years with a mandatory three-year cooling-off period after six years

BCCI MATTER IN CHANDRACHUD'S COURT NOW

The Supreme Court on Wednesday said the matter concerning Indian cricket board (BCCI) will be heard by a special bench headed by Justice D Y Chandrachud

WHAT DID THE SC SAY?

A division bench headed by Chief Justice of India N V Ramana said that the earlier judgment of August 9, 2018 in the BCCI case was passed by a bench comprising CJI Dipak Misra and justices Khanwilkar and Chandrachud. Since both Misra and Khanwilkar have since retired, the matter will be heard by a Chandrachud-led bench

TERMS TO PONDER ABOUT

The board had requested the Supreme Court to allow it to amend its constitution to deal with tenure and term of its office bearers. As per the existing constitution, a mandatory cooling-off period of three years is a must for any office-bearer who has completed two terms of three years each irrespective of whether the person has served in a state association or in the BCCI

CLAUSE AND EFFECT

The board wants the clause removed so that its present president Sourav Ganguly and secretary Jay Shah can continue. The two have already over-stayed and are completing their first term of three years in office. Going by Lodha recommendation, both had completed their six-year cumulative term within months of assuming office after elections in 2019

EXPRESS EXCLUSIVE

Dubai for 50K more seats, Indian carriers worried

SHAHID FARIDI @ New Delhi

IN a development that has potential to deal a lethal blow to airlines in India, the UAE has stepped up pressure to increase seats between the two countries by another 50,000 per week.

Dubai Civil Aviation Authority director-general Mohammed A Ahli has, in a letter to civil aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, asked India to allow Amritsar, Tiruchirapalli, Coimbatore, Kannur, Goa, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati and Pune to become additional points of call for Dubai carriers. If approved, these would be among the most lucrative routes for the UAE carriers.

Not surprisingly, Indian carriers are vehemently opposing more seats for the Gulf airlines. The UAE's flagship carrier, Emirates, already operates some of the most profitable routes between India and the UAE. The airline at present operates from nine cities in India — Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kochi, Kolkata, and Thiruvananthapuram. The UAE has been pressuring the government to allow more flights from the nine cities. Earlier, Emirates president Tim Clark had brushed aside opposition from Indian carriers and asked the Indian government to open up more routes.

Eight new sectors the UAE is looking at

The UAE wants Amritsar, Tiruchirapalli, Coimbatore, Kannur, Goa, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati and Pune to become additional points of call for Dubai carriers Emirates and FlyDubai. They are among the most lucrative sectors in India

In his letter to Scindia, Mohammed Ahli said the governments of India and UAE have taken a series of steps to further promote trade and commerce as well as cooperation in various areas. "The Dubai-India air transport sector continues to be the cornerstone of all such businesses," he said, adding an "agreement between our two States to update the entitlements of the respective designated airlines is of vital importance."

Ahli said, "the current seat capacity of 65,200 seats was established vide the terms of the MoU between our respective Governments in 2014." P9

CONTRACTORS NAME MINISTER IN '40% COMMISSION' SCAM

Munirathna accused of demanding bribes from contractors; CM rubbishes allegations

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ Bengaluru

THE allegations of "40 per cent commission corruption" scam has come to a head with the Karnataka State Contractors' Association for the first time accusing and naming a cabinet minister, Horticulture and Planning & Statistics Minister, N Munirathna, over demanding bribes from contractors.

The fresh row over corruption charges, naming a minister, has erupted even as the parties are preparing for the 2023 assembly polls.

The association had earlier written to PM Narendra Modi, accusing the authorities of demanding a "40 per cent" commission from contractors, which was repeatedly denied by the ruling BJP government.

The association president D Kempanna on Wednesday accused Munirathna, who is also Kolar district in-charge minister of instructing an Executive Engineer (EE) of collecting hush money from contractors, threatening him with suspension from duty if he did not comply. Interestingly, Kempanna's serious allegations against the minister came after his meeting with Leader of Opposition Siddaramaiah on Wednesday morning. "I will write to Prime Minister Narendra Modi once again appreciating him for his remarks on corruption as it is an enemy of the nation, but also remind him that no action has been taken on the ground even a year after I wrote to him about the 40 per cent commission," Kempanna said.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and Muniratna have rubbished the allegations. Bommai said there is no truth in the allegations made after Kempanna met Siddaramaiah.

"Kempanna heads one of the contractors' associations. I advise him to furnish documentary evidence to the Lokayukta for a probe as there is a system in place. Lokayukta has full freedom. Let them investigate and we will take action against those involved in any wrongdoing," Bommai said. P4

The contractors are ready to furnish documentary evidence and are also prepared to face legal eventualities if they are proved wrong

Siddaramaiah, Leader of Opposition in the Assembly

Transfer ACB cases & staff fast: Lokayukta

YATHIRAJU @ Bengaluru

AS the state government has delayed transfer of cases and staff from the Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) to the Karnataka Lokayukta as directed by the Karnataka High Court, the Registrar of Lokayukta has written to Chief Secretary Vandana Sharma to take steps to implement the court order. The HC had on August 11, 2022 abolished the ACB and ordered transfer of its cases and staff to the Lokayukta.

While quashing the government's notification on setting up the ACB and withdrawing powers of Lokayukta under the Prevention of Corruption Act, the HC had directed its Registry to send an order copy to the chief secretary to take steps to transfer inquiries and other proceedings being handled by the ACB till the date of the judgment to Lokayukta. P4

Contractors accuse BBMP of taking 50% commission

Even as charges of '40 per cent commission' corruption tainting the Bommai government, now there are allegations that in the BBMP, it extends to 50 per cent. BBMP Contractors' Association president Manjunath KT on Wednesday alleged that to move files in the BBMP and get them cleared from different 'tables', the commission cut goes up to 50 per cent. P4

Gehlot parries posers on Cong prez post

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi/Ahmedabad

A day after Rajasthan Chief Minister **Ashok Gehlot** emerged as the front-runner for the Congress president's post, the veteran leader parried media queries about his candidature. Within the party, efforts were on to convince him to convey his consent.

With Rahul Gandhi refusing to occupy the position, Gehlot's name got into in circulation after he called on interim Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Tuesday. Gehlot was scheduled to meet Rahul as well, but could not do so as Sonia, Rahul and Priyanka left for London soon after. Sonia went for a medical checkup, the Congress said, adding Rahul will be back to address the September 4 rally in Delhi against price rise. Sources said before leaving for London, Sonia asked Gehlot to take up the responsibility of leading the Congress. P10

EXPRESS READ

Nitish attacks Modi after winning trust vote

Patna: Bihar CM Nitish Kumar on Wednesday said the PM Modi-led Centre does 'little except publicity'. Kumar said this in his speech during a debate on the motion of confidence for his government. The newly formed 'Mahagathbandhan' won the motion of confidence amid a walkout staged by BJP MLAs. P10

CM releases health vision document

Bengaluru: CM Basavaraj Bommai released the health vision document - "Advancing People's health in Karnataka: Vision for Progress" - a road map for health care for the next 25 years brought out by the Vision Group set up by the government, on Wednesday. Bommai said the government will implement all recommendations step by step. P3

Man sends fake letter to fix lover's hubby

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Shivamogga

IN a bizarre incident, a man who had an affair with a married woman tried to fix her husband in a communal conspiracy case in an attempt to live with her. The police arrested the man after the "anonymous" threat letter he sent was traced back to him.

The letter had warned of three murders and communal clashes during the Ganesha festival in the city, which is already wracked by repeated communal incidents over the last few days. The police, during the inquiry, found that the letter was written by Ayub, who allegedly had an affair with Mohammed Faizal's wife.

A shop owner found the letter at Sri Ganga Parameshwari Temple at Gandhi Bazaar around 8 pm on August 20. P5

REVERENCE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeks Mata Amritanandamayi Devi's blessings during the inauguration of Amrita Hospital in Faridabad on Wednesday | SHUSHAN YADAV | P9

Dadapeer Jyman, Thamanna Beegar bag Akademi awards

KIRAN BALANNANAVAR &
SUBHASH CHANDRA NS @ Hosapete, Kanwar

YOUNG writer Dadapeer Jyman from Hagaribommanahalli in Vijayanagar district, and Thamanna Beegar, retired teacher from Siddapur in Uttara Kannada district, have been honoured with the Kendriya Sahitya Akademi award for 2022.

Dadapeer Jyman

Thamanna Beegar

The award, which carries a cash prize of Rs 50,000 and a memento, will be presented in New Delhi in December.

Jyman was picked in the young literary section for his story collection 'Neelakurinji', while Beegar bagged the award for his children's book 'Bavali Guhe'.

"I am delighted. It's an unforgettable moment in my life," Jyman, who works with a private company in Bengaluru, told *TNIE*. "I am proud to receive the country's second highest literary award," he added. P10

Mining threatens 12th century temple

KIRAN BALANNANAVAR @ Ballari

INCREASING stone mining at Sandur taluk in Ballari district is posing a threat to the 12th century Parvati temple nestled in the Swamimalai Hill, also referred to as Kumaraswamy Hills.

The temple, protected under the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), is partially damaged and villagers are demanding immediate intervention of the authorities to save the structure. The locals have accused the authorities of turning a blind eye to the mining activities going around the temple area.

The 12th century Parvati temple nestled in the Swamimalai Hill in Ballari district.

"ASI rules specify that no mining activity can be taken up within 2 km radius of any protected monument. But a mine is located less than 600 metres from the temple. There are multiple companies which have started mining in recent times, causing damage to the temple property. Last week a portion of the structure collapsed and the periphery wall of the temple was damaged," said a villager from Sandur.

CONTINUED ON: P5

B'luru to soon have first 3D-printed post office of India

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

AN entire post office is slated to come up in Karnataka, all in a span of just one month, thanks to 3D printing technology. Cambridge Layout in Halasuru is set to witness this technological marvel, making it the first post office in the country to be built using 3D printing.

Through this innovation, the construction cost would be reduced to one-fourth of the amount spent on a traditional model. "We are keen on building low-cost post offices. Hence, we approached Larsen & Toubro Construction in connection with building our Halasuru Bazaar sub post office. It is said to be the only company undertaking 3D printing-enabled construction in India," Chief Post Master General, Karnataka Circle, S Rajendra Kumar informed *TNIE*.

The Postal department has its own plot of land in Halasuru. "A building of around 1,000 square feet here would cost less than Rs 25 lakh if 3D printing technology is used. This would work out to just 25 per cent of the normal construction cost," he said, adding that the technology could offer the department a feasible alternative to provide post office buildings in areas which desperately require them.

L&T has obtained technology approval from Building Materials and Technology Promotion Council of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and IIT-Madras for 3D concrete printing for structures running from ground-plus-three floors, the CPMG said.

A building of around 1,000 square feet here would cost less than Rs 25 lakh if 3D printing technology is used

S Rajendra Kumar